

ne day, 20 years or so from now, students will glance at the plaque on the bronze statue at Savitz Hall and make the connection:

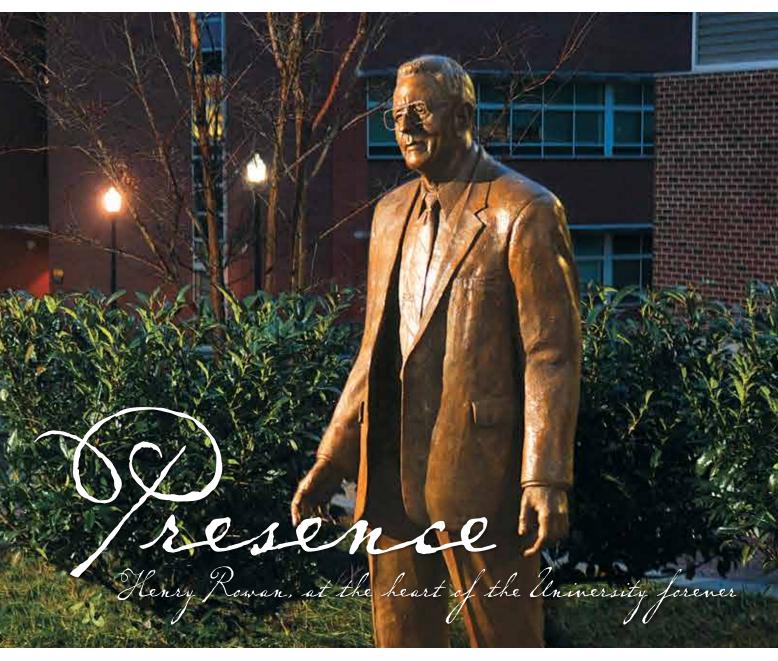
"Henry Rowan."

"Rowan University." "Hey, he's the man..."

Henry Rowan. He is indeed "the man." The industrialist and philanthropist and his late wife, Betty, pledged \$100 million to

Glassboro State College in 1992.

The Rowans had no direct ties to the college—he was an MIT grad, his business, Inductotherm Industries Inc., was headquartered in Burlington County and that's where they made their home. Still, Henry "Hank" and Betty gave what was then the largest gift to a public institution. They asked this of the school: to create a college of engineering to transform engineering education.



Glassboro State, soon renamed to honor the benefactors, did just that: it created an innovative— and highly respected—College of Engineering. The Rowan Gift made that possible, and it opened the door to other major gifts and to unanticipated progress at the institution.

Last December, 20 years after the donation now known as the Rowan Gift—written in capitals and spoken with awe—the University dedicated the statue by renowned artist Zenos Frudakis.

The dedication was a moving ceremony, with a standing-room-only crowd spilling onto the sidewalk outside Savitz Hall. Hundreds of the University community and three generations of the Rowan family cheered as Henry Rowan drew the cord to unveil the statue—a monument which he had reluctantly agreed to have created.

Today, the tall bronze is a reminder of amazing generosity and commitment to excellence. It stands as a welcome to newcomers, a landmark, a tribute. Every so often staff and students clothe or decorate the statue—a brown-and-gold scarf in the winter, a heart-shaped box of chocolates at Valentine's Day, a mortarboard at Commencement—affectionate tributes to their "Hank."

The statue will remind generations to come of the Rowans' vision and commitment to higher education.

One day, 20 years or so from now, students, maybe in engineering or premed or accounting, will make the connection between the statue and the man. And they'll have a lot for which to be thankful.





makers applied a release agent and then

poured and brushed rubber onto each

followed with plaster and casting fiber

segment. With the rubber set, they

to create a case.



measurements.

2. Mr. Rowan selected his favorite aviator's tie

3. To create the clay figure, sculptor Zenos

clip and Inductotherm tie for the sculpture.

Frudakis referenced more than 100 photos









- 5. Laran Bronze foundry used an Inductotherm furnace to melt the silicon-bronze metal to 2100-2300 degrees fahrenheit. The "pour" of 600 pounds of metal from the crucible took about 30 minutes.
- 6. Once the bronze cooled, Mr. Rowan and family members took turns with a hammer to break the plaster shell and expose the bronze upper body.
- 7. A welder joined the 12 sections of unfinished bronze to form the 7-foot-tall figure.
- 8. Mr. and Mrs. Rowan decided on classic brown for the patina.

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## Welcome to campus

- Scores of students were among the crowd welcoming Mr. Rowan and waiting patiently for photos with him in December.
- In what may become a Commencement day tradition, graduates marked their passage from Rowan University with a farewell photo in May.
- 3. Pioneering educators—who rose to Mr. Rowan's 1992 challenge to establish the engineering program—joined the celebration. From left, Founding Chair of civil engineering Ralph Dusseau, Founding Dean Jim Tracey, Associate Dean Steve Chin, Founding Chair of chemical engineering Stewart Slater and Founding Chair of mechanical engineering T.R. Chandrupatla.
- 4. Just days after the December unveiling, the bronze Mr. Rowan got his second hat. The first one—placed on his head in the predawn hours on the day the foundry installed the statue and then shrouded it—was a brown-and-gold Rowan Facilities cap.
- 5. The fine detail in the statue began with clay more than 100 years old—rare, precious clay bequeathed to younger artists by great American sculptors including Augustus St. Gaudens and Daniel Chester French. Some of the same clay was used to sculpt the model for the Lincoln Memorial. The bronze cast faces southeast, following tradition that dictates the sun should not set on the subject's face.

